Welcome to Week 7 where a touch of Autumn is evident in our cooler nights and mornings. **Student achievements:** Congratulations to Flanders Fields class on their superb assembly item last Friday. It was incredibly moving for everyone in the audience to listen to some of the students talk about their family members who had fought at Gallipoli during World War 1 and then hear the whole class recite the poignant words of the beautiful poem we hear each Anzac Day called “In Flanders Fields” by John McCrae. You could hear a pin drop!

Our school is having a dedicated focus on writing this year with an emphasis not only on correct spelling and punctuation but on sequenced ideas with descriptive language. Our students are realising that writing is for a purpose and someone else will be reading it. Kaia and Mia in Lemnos class wrote excellent responses following reading “Noni the Pony” by Alison Lester.

Burton and Western Front classes are enjoying their learning about Antarctica. They have discovered some amazing facts and also developed an understanding of the hardships endured by both early explorers and 21st century adventurers following a recent visit by local identity Pat Farmer. Well done Stage 3.

**Stamp Chart Superstars!**: As always, my days have been brightened by the patter of eager students’ feet who are thrilled to share with me the reasons for acquiring stamps on their completed stamp charts. The following students recently visited my office:

- Dardanelles – Kai, Nate, Xavier, Emily K, Sophia, Annalise, Hamish, Amelia, Mia, Bede, Hayley, Nevaeh, Joshua, Chloe, Joel
- Tucker – Shylah, Rylie, Ruby, Caylen, Bailey
- Lemnos – Grace, Joel
- Canakkale – Sophie, Mitchell, Ashton, William
- Hamilton – Sienna, Riley, Amy, Annalise
- Throssell – Emma, Paige R, Connor W, Ayla, Jiselle, Eliza
- Lone Pine – Holly, Alexis, Amylia, Samuel

**Clean-up Australia Day**: Last Monday afternoon saw a very successful clean-up of our school grounds in recognition of the need to be responsible for the cleanliness of our school environment. Students discovered plenty of rubbish and were able to sort it and put it into either recyclable rubbish or landfill. Our thanks go to Miss Turhanlar and her Eco-Committee for organising this environmentally worthwhile event. The challenge for our students is to keep our school grounds in this same clean state each day.

**Parent – Teacher interviews**: Notes will go home soon about an opportunity to speak with your child’s teacher regarding academic and social settling in to this year’s learning. We encourage all parents to find some time in their busy schedules to make an appointment with their child’s class teacher.

**Zone Swimming Carnival**: Congratulations to the following students who are representing our school at the Zone Swimming Carnival today:

- Aaron S, Abby, Alec, Alexis, Ayla C, Bridget S, Cherysh, Coby, Dean, Dylan, Elisha, Ethan, Finn, Gemma B, Georgie, Jessica S, Kane, Lauren, Olivia, Russell, Ryan Tyler J, Zac T and Amber

Good luck to all! We know you will be great ambassadors for our school.

**Classrooms Without Borders**: Our school is hosting a number of students throughout this year from the University of Western Sydney who are undergoing teacher training following completing their degree. They will be assisting our classroom teachers in activities such as listening to students read, working with small groups in literacy and numeracy and working with our extra-curricular groups such as Garden Club and Eco-Committee.

This week four students will commence with us and they have each chosen one day. I know our school will provide an excellent example of what a fantastic primary school should look like.
Playground changes: To make our large grass playground safer for all age groups, our students now have dedicated areas for each stage to play a ball game such as soccer or touch football. We are in the process of purchasing additional soccer goals and having play areas marked out. Visibility vests have been ordered for teachers to wear whilst they are on playground duty to make it very easy for any student to locate the teacher on duty. We are also encouraging students to tell this teacher on duty straight away if there is a problem.

Aussie of the Month
An AUSSIE OF THE MONTH is someone who:
- Consistently obeys the school rules.
- Is helpful to students and teachers.
- Is caring to other class and school members.
- Is a good friend.
- Always gives of their best and tries hard to improve.
- Displays a wonderful attitude to school.

The ‘Aussies of the Month' for February are: Infants – Oliver Ball Primary – Cooper Bridge

Awards
Gold: Darcy Wilson, Samuel Martyn
Silver: Darcy Wilson, Samuel Martyn, Corey Lovelee, Seth Gilmore
Bronze: Darcy Wilson, Carter Apps, Scarlett Corcoran, Alec Rochaix, Leah Kelly, Brianna Coulter, Annelise Hall, Zac Thompson, Nick Jr Constantin, Ayla Costello

Student of the Week:
Dardanelles – Kai Reichert Tucker – Ella Brady Canakkale – William Shearer
Lemnos – Kaia Thompson Hamilton – Zarah Goddard Throssell – Hayley Lorenz
Flanders Fields – Lucas Marks Lone Pine – Maddison Ryde Burton – Olivia Dunbier
Western Front – Brianna Coulter

Appin Massacre Memorial Ceremony: All are welcome to this annual memorial for the Dharawal people who perished in the massacre of 1816.
Where: Cataract Dam picnic area
When: Sunday 19th April, 12pm to 3.30pm
A free sausage sizzle lunch will be provided. The event will take place regardless of weather conditions.
For further information please contact Uncle Ivan Wellington – 0447 581 306

2015 International Competitions And Assessments For Schools (ICAS)
This year Appin Public School will participate in the following competitions:
☐ Computer Skills – 19 May 2015 ($8.00) ☐ Writing – 15 June 2015 to 19 June 2015 ($17.00)
☐ English – 28 July 2015 ($8.00) ☐ Mathematics – 11 August 2015 ($8.00)

An entry form was sent home with students last Tuesday. Please return the permission slip with the entry fee by: Friday 23rd March 2015 if you would like your child to participate. Please note that no late entries are accepted.

CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL 2015 SPONSORSHIP PERMISSION NOTE
I give permission for my child/ren:
____________________________________ of class ______
____________________________________ of class ______
____________________________________ of class ______

To participate in the Fun Run Sponsorship program to raise funds for Appin Public School. I understand that it is my responsibility to adequately supervise my children’s out-of-school fundraising. I have agreed to return my child’s sponsor sheet forms along with all proceeds raised.
Signed __________________________________________ Date _____________
Harmony Day: Appin School will celebrate Harmony Day on Thursday 19th March. Students are able to wear mufti clothing (Orange theme for Harmony Day) and make a gold coin donation. The funds raised will go towards 'The Kids of Macarthur Foundation'.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reminder</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10th Mar</td>
<td>Zone Swimming carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th Mar</td>
<td>Selective High School Test + Issue 2 Bookclub orders due</td>
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<tr>
<td>17th Mar</td>
<td>Regional Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>19th Mar</td>
<td>Harmony Day – Orange mufti clothes for a gold coin donation</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd Mar</td>
<td>ICAS University Competitions entry form due</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th Mar</td>
<td>School Photos – Every child needs an envelope!</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th Mar</td>
<td>Parliament Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st May</td>
<td>Fun Run Cross Country Carnival – Return permission note for sponsorship form</td>
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</tbody>
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Visitors to Mrs Harrison’s room
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